

1 1. A method of controlling a processor-based system
2 comprising:
3 receiving video information from a camera;
4 analyzing said information; and
5 controlling the power consumption state of said
6 system based on said video information.

1 2. The method of claim 1 further controlling the
2 operation of system utilities based on said video
3 information.

1 3. The method of claim 1 further controlling the
2 operation of a screen saver based on said information.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein analyzing said
2 information includes calculating a luminance value from
3 said video information.

1 5. The method of claim 4 including determining
2 whether said luminance value has changed by a given amount.

1 6. The method of claim 5 including determining
2 whether the luminance value has changed by a given amount
3 for a given time period.

1 7. The method of claim 4 including determining a
2 value indicative of whether the video information indicates
3 motion.

1 8. The method of claim 7 including determining
2 whether said motion has persisted for a given period of
3 time.

1 9. The method of claim 8 including using said value
2 to control the power consumption state of said system.

1 10. An article comprising a medium for storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to:
3 analyze video information, and
4 control the power consumption state of said
5 system based on said video information.

1 11. The article of claim 10 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to control
3 the operation of system utilities based on said video
4 information.

1 12. The article of claim 10 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to control
3 the operation of a screen saver based on said information.

1 13. The article of claim 10 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 calculate a luminance value from said video information and
4 to use said luminance value to control the power
5 consumption state of said system.

1 14. The article of claim 13 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 determine whether said luminance value has changed by a
4 given amount.

1 15. The article of claim 14 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 determine whether the luminance value has changed by a
4 given amount for a given time period.

1 16. The article of claim 14 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 determine a value indicative of whether the video
4 information indicates motion.

1 17. The article of claim 16 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 determine whether said motion has persisted for a given
4 period of time.

1 18. The article of claim 17 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to use
3 said motion information to control the power consumption
4 state of said system.

1 19. The article of claim 10 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 determine whether the lights are on proximate to the
4 system.

1 20. A method of controlling a processor-based system
2 comprising:
3 receiving video information;
4 analyzing said information to develop luminance
5 information; and
6 controlling the operation of software on said
7 system based on said luminance information.

1 21. The method of claim 20 further including
2 controlling the power consumption state of said system
3 based on said luminance information.

1 2. 22. The method of claim 20 further including
2 controlling the operation of a screen saver based on said
3 luminance information.

3.

1 ~~23.~~ The method of claim ~~20~~ further including
2 controlling the operation of system utilities based on said
3 luminance information.

4.

1 ~~24.~~ The method of claim ~~24~~ including determining
2 whether the video information indicates motion.

1 25. An article comprising a medium for storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to:
3 analyze video information to develop luminance
4 information; and
5 control the operation of software on said system
6 based on said luminance information.

1 26. The article of claim 25 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to control
3 one or more of the power consumption state of said system,
4 a screen saver, or system utilities, based on said
5 luminance information.

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1 ~~27.~~ The article of claim ~~26~~ further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 determine whether the video information indicates motion.

1 28. A processor-based system comprising:
2 a processor, said processor coupled to a storage
3 device;
4 a digital camera coupled to said processor; and
5 said storage device storing software that
6 controls the power consumption state of said system based
7 on information received from said camera.

1 29. The system of claim 28 wherein said software
2 controls the power consumption state of said system based
3 on information from said camera indicative of motion
4 proximate to said camera.

1 30. The system of claim 28 wherein said software
2 controls the operation of system utilities based on
3 information from said digital camera.